

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 23, 1999 LB 302, 704

and enforcement issues, and so LB 302 was looked at as a reasonable ground, kind of a level playing field where for the first time all of the different groups would come together and try to address the problems. And what it does, it introduces, it creates the Nebraska Commission on Motor Vehicle Laws. It sets up a commission, again, not a usually popular word, 20 to 25 people who are appointed by the Governor. The two ex-officio members shall be the Chairperson of the Transportation Committee of the Legislature and the Chairperson of the Banking, Commerce, and Insurance Committee because I think especially those two have been in the Legislature a long time. We see variations on these laws constantly going back and forth between these two committees looking for some way to address the problem of the unlicensed, uninsured, unregistered motorist. What the other commission members will be will be the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Insurance, the Department of Roads, Nebraska Highway Safety, insurance companies, both private and independent contractors, the trucking association, attorneys and the State Patrol. The idea is to bring everyone to the table because what has been happening, I think, if you look at the testimony of any of the bills, over and over we would have individuals testify about the situations they found themselves in, and everyone would agree that it was a problem. But then everyone would circle the wagons and start shooting at each other. It was a local law enforcement issue. There wasn't enough law enforcement to handle it. It would require mandated insurance. Insurance companies didn't have the computers to send the information in. The forms were too complicated. And then when you get back to your constituents who write in, they have even other ideas; find them, incarcerate them, start a vehicle safety check, a whole variety of ideas and issues about how to work with the situation. As I said, this amendment is to create a reasonable approach to looking at it. We've had public hearings. We've had bills introduced. We've had interim studies. And in essence, what this would do is it would finally, for the first time, get people together, and in a short amount of time, they would be required to look at the statutes, to look at the problems, and to make a recommendation to the Legislature by December 31st of 1999. The commission, itself, would sunset in 2000 and the hope behind this is that with everybody coming together to address the problems, we will find at least some kind of recommendation to go forward to the